Tree Growers Cooperatives

2433. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NDDB has formulated a scheme to assist tree growers' cooperatives with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether any cooperatives have been selected from Andhra Pradesh for assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India and the Government of Sweden signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 30th July, 1992 to enable the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the National Tree Growers' Cooperative Federation (NTGCF) to implement the Tree Growers' Cooperative Project in the States of Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu with the assistance of Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The estimated cost of the Project is 50 million Swedish Kronor (approximately Rs. 24.4 crores). The Project aims at organising 300 Tree Growers' Cooperative Societes in these States for developing 10,000 hectares of wastelands during the Project period of five years starting from 1992.

The Government of India and the Government of Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 17th March, 1993 to enable the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the National Tree Growers' Cooperative Federation (NTGCF) to implement the Tree Growers' Cooperative Project in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka with the assistance of Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The estimated cost of the Project is 20 million Canadian dollars (approximately Rs. 45.9 crores). The Project aims at organising 300 Tree Growers' Cooperative Societies in these States for developing 11,400 hectares of wastelands during the Project period of six years starting from 1993.

(c) and (d) As on 31-3-1994, 35 Tree Growers' Cooperative Societies have been organised with 1,923 members in Andhra Pradesh under the Tree Growers' Cooperative Project. The project is operational in the districts of Chittoor and Cuddapph 8.45 lakh trees have been planted on 337 hectares of revenue wastelands.

Allocation of funds under IRDP and JRY to Punjab

2434. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Central allocation of funds made to Punjab under the Integrated Rural Development Programme and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to monitor the funds provided under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) Government is implementing two major rural development Programme viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the country indulging the State of Punjab. The Central allocation of funds made to